

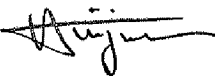
REMARKS

After entry of this amendment, claims 1-16 are pending. Claims have been amended without prejudice and disclaimer to correct the antecedent basis and to better comply with U.S. practice. Support is found *inter alia* in the original claims. No new matter has been added.

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed March 12, 2007, Applicants provisionally elect Group I (claims 1-14), the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3, and the organism *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, with traverse. Applicants believe that there is no undue burden on the Examiner to search this invention. For the above reason, Applicants respectfully request that this restriction requirement be withdrawn.

Applicants believe no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 03-2775, under Order No. 13111-00006-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Hui-Ju Wu

Registration No.: 57,209
CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP
1007 North Orange Street
P.O. Box 2207
Wilmington, Delaware 19899
(302) 658-9141
(302) 658-5614 (Fax)
Agent for Applicants